

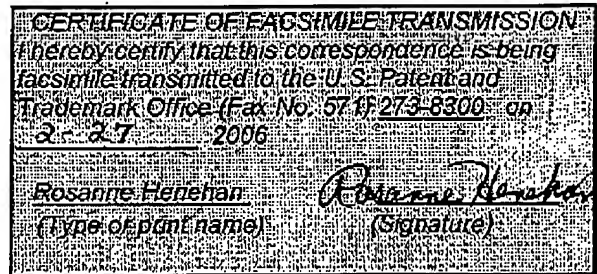
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application: )  
Hart, et al. )  
U.S. Serial No.: 10/612,631 )  
Filed: July 2, 2003 )  
For: INTERLOCKING SUTURE CLINCH )

Customer No.: 21378  
Docket No.: A-2202-AL  
Art Unit: 3731

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Dear Sir/Madam:



Attached please find the following documents submitted for filing in reference to the above-referenced application.

1. Information Disclosure Statement;
2. PTO Form SB/08a (1 page);
3. PTO Form SB/08b (1 page);
4. Cited Reference (International Search Report and Written Opinion); and
5. Transmittal.

Respectfully submitted,

*Rosanne Henehan*  
Rosanne Henehan  
Applied Medical Resources

**CUSTOMER NO.: 21378**

Telephone (949) 713-8000  
Facsimile (949) 713-8206

PTO/SB/21 (02-04)

Approved for use through 07/31/2006, OMB 0851-0031  
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

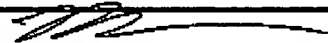
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<b>TRANSMITTAL FORM</b>  (to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)	Application Number	10/812,631
	Filing Date	July 2, 2003
	First Named Inventor	Charles C. Hart
	Art Unit	3731
	Examiner Name	Jackson, Gary
	Attorney Docket Number	A-2202-AL
Total Number of Pages In This Submission	12	

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ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)		
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<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached	<input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers	<input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences
<input type="checkbox"/> Amendment/Reply	<input type="checkbox"/> Petition	<input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to TC (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief)
<input type="checkbox"/> After Final	<input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application	<input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information
<input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation	<input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter
<input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request	<input type="checkbox"/> Change of Correspondence Address	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below):
<input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request	<input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer	PTO Form SB/08a; PTO Form SB/08b; Cited Reference (International Search Report and Written Opinion).
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement	<input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund	
<input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) _____	
<input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/Incomplete Application	Remarks	
<input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53		

**SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT**

Firm or Individual name	PATRICK Y. IKEHARA
Signature	
Date	2-27-2006

**CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date shown below.

Typed or printed name	Rosanne Henehan
Signature	
Date	2-27-06

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.5. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**RECEIVED**  
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**FEB 27 2006**In re application of:  
Hart, et al.

Customer No. 21378

Serial No. 10/612,631

Attorney's Docket: A-2202-AL

Filed: July 2, 2003  
For: INTERLOCKING SUTURE CLINCHMail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450  
Facsimile No.: (703) 872-9306INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Dear Sir/Madam:

Enclosed please find a copy of PTO/SB/08a and PTO/SB/08b, which lists information which may be relevant to the prosecution of the above-captioned application. It is requested that this information be considered by the Office.

This Statement is being submitted under the terms of 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b). The information is being filed before the mailing of a first Office Action on the merits. Therefore, it is believed no fee is due.

Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(h), it is understood that filing of the Information Disclosure Statement does not constitute an admission that the information submitted is material to patentability.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any over-payment, to our Deposit Account No. 01-2215.

Respectfully submitted,

Patrick Y. Ikehara  
Attorney for Applicant  
Registration No. 42,681Date: February 27 2006Customer No. 21378  
Telephone (949) 713-8000  
Facsimile (949) 713-8206

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**Complete if Known**

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Application Number	10/612,631
Filing Date	July 2, 2003
First Named Inventor	Charles C. Ha
Art Unit	3731
Examiner Name	Jackson, Gary
Attorney Docket Number	A-2202-AL

[illegible][illegible]

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
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\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 809. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. <sup>1</sup> Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov) or MPEP 801.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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PTO/SB/08B (08-03)

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<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>  <i>(Use as many sheets as necessary)</i>		<b>Complete if Known</b>	
		Application Number	10/612,631
		Filing Date	July 2, 2003
		First Named Inventor	Charles C. Hart
		Art Unit	3731
		Examiner Name	Jackson, Gary
Sheet 1	of 1	Attorney Docket Number	A-2202-AL

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T <sup>2</sup>
		INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY, International Search Report and Written Opinion, for PCT/US04/12484, mailed February 3, 2006.	

Examiner Signature	Date Considered
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\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached. This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.88. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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